(a) As per information available with the Government, no such statement has been made by the Director, CBI.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e) The CBI has been given functional autonomy in accordance with the provisions of the Delhi Special Police Establishment Act, 1946, as amended by the Central Vigilance Commission Act, 2003.

CBI raids in Kerala

2508. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Central Government offices in Kerala which were subjected to CBI raids and the amount recovered therefrom the number of offices, against whom, cases have been registered and their departments concerned; and

(b) whether Government consider to strengthen the existing machinery to check corruption among officials and whether Government would also consider to provide modern equipments to detect corrupt officials?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) During 2005, 13 Central Government Officers/officials, based in Kerala, were subjected to searches by CBI in the cases registered against them. It will not be appropriate to disclose the result of the searches at this stage since the disclosure may impede the course of investigation in these cases.

(b) Various anti-corruption measures have been taken like formulating and implementing effective anti-corruption policies and practices; constituting preventive anti corruption bodies (CVC/CBI); establishing systems based on transparency, competition and objective criteria in public procurement and management of public finances; and enactment of Right to Information Act, 2005 enhancing public access to information.